

# ANS NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



Broadway at 155th Street, New York, NY 10032

212/234-3130

Summer 1982

## ANS WELCOMES VISITORS

In addition to the eleven graduate seminar students working at the ANS this summer, a number of distinguished visitors have worked with the Society's collections and library holdings since the end of the academic year.

Our most recent visitor is Nicholas Lowick, Deputy Keeper of Islamic and Oriental Coins at the British Museum. He is a graduate of Christs College, Cambridge, where he read Modern Languages. A youthful collector of Roman coins, he joined the staff of the BM in 1962 where he worked closely with the Orientalist John Walker. Subsequently he studied Arabic and Hindi to facilitate his working with Oriental coins.

Lowick is developing a type corpus of early Abbasid coins. The initial volume will cover approximately the first 100 years of Abbasid rule and will describe each type and its variants. Also included will be references to published and unpublished types as well. His visit to the ANS is in conjunction with this book, and he plans to visit other major collections, such as the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Hermitage. While here, he addressed the Graduate Seminar on the topic of "Metropolitan vs. Provincial Style in the Early Abbasid Coinage."



Nicholas Lowick with Curator Michael Bates



Blomquist with Associate Curator Alan Stahl

Another visitor is Thomas W. Blomquist, Associate Professor of Medieval History at Northern Illinois University in De Kalb. A specialist in Medieval Italian economic and social history, Blomquist has been investigating thirteenth century commercial rates of exchange between Lucca, Tuscany, and the international fairs held in Champagne. Currently he is working on 202 exchange contracts from the year 1284 dealing with trading between the various Luccazi mercantile companies. One of the concerns of his research is the intrinsic value of coins as contrasted with the apparent manipulation of funds both in Lucca and Champagne. He is a former Graduate Seminar student and recently chaired a panel on "Medieval Monetary Problems: Bimetallism and Bullionism," for which Associate Curator Alan Stahl along with two other former Graduate Seminar students delivered papers.

P.J. Casey spent some time with us working on a die study of Faustina I's gold in connection with archaeological interests in Britain. He is Senior Lecturer of Roman Archaeology at the University of Durham in England; his most recent book, published in 1980, is *Roman Coinage in Britain*, a recipient of the Lhotka Memorial Prize. He coordinates a program concerning already excavated sites in Britain, being espe-

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## 125th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING ADVANCES

An active calendar of events is planned in celebration of the Society's 125th anniversary in 1983.

Next September an exciting new exhibit, "The World of Coins" will open at the Society's museum, the result of nearly a decade of planning by our professional staff and expert consultants, to highlight the role of money in the development of the diverse cultures of our world.

The major themes of the exhibit provide the basis for several other programs planned for 1983 and beyond. Coincident with the opening of the exhibit, a symposium will be held at the Society on "Numismatics and History—Methodological Approaches." It will bring together scholars from this country and abroad whose current work exemplifies the sound application of various research methodologies to the solution of historical problems. A program of weekend gallery talks is also planned and we shall be inaugurating an outreach program, providing speakers at nominal cost to high schools, colleges, libraries and historical societies in the greater metropolitan New York area. Finally, a series of *Handbooks* will be issued derived from and expanding upon the topics treated in the exhibition.

### Publications Slated

During the anniversary year the Society will issue *The American Numismatic Society, 1958-1983*, supplementing the centennial history volume issued in 1958, and *Directory of Graduate Seminar Alumni*, providing biographical sketches of the 316 students who have attended this annual program since its inception in 1952, many of whom have remained in academia. The Society will also issue a medal commemorating this milestone in our history.

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## Graduate Seminar Concludes

The thirtieth annual Graduate Seminar in Numismatics was held at the Society's museum from June 8 through August 7. Eleven students from ten institutions spent the nine weeks pursuing a wide range of topics and learning principles of numismatic methodology under the direction of the Society's curatorial staff and visiting scholar Andrew M. Burnett.

Candace Carter did a die study of the mint of Leucas, a Corinthian colony, ca. 450-350 B.C. The ANS collection is particularly rich in these coins, and it proved possible to trace the development of the classical coinage and propose a tentative chronology.

Robert A. Moysey surveyed the coinage of the Great Satraps' Revolt (362/1-359/8 B.C.), including issues attributed to King Tachos of Egypt and the Persian satraps Orontes of Mysia, Mausolus of Caria, Autophradates of Lydia, and Datames of Cilicia. The major focus was on the dating of the three large silver issues of Datames.

Barbara Tsakirgis worked to establish both relative and absolute chronologies for the coinage of Hieron II based on die

linkage and stylistic considerations. Except for a single early issue, the silver coins of Hieron, tyrant of Syracuse in the third century B.C., bear the likenesses of himself (on the 32-litra piece), his wife Philistis (on the 16- and 5-litra pieces), and his son Gelon II (on the 8- and 4-litra coins).

James A. Armstrong attempted to untangle the very similar coinages of two Parthian kings of the first century A.D., Artabanus II and Gotarzes II, from the mint of Ecbatana. It proved possible to establish a sequence of die engravers for the silver coins and a corresponding one for the bronzes. The resulting pattern of issues suggests a period of relative stability during the reign of Artabanus II.

Marsha McCoy studied the evidence for the date and attribution of a series of denarii usually attributed to the mint of Narbo and concluded it was struck at Rome. Using hoards, die links and stylistic considerations, she suggested that the "Narbo" issue and that of M. Furius Philus need not have been struck in 118.

Peter F. Dorsey examined the numis-

matic, historical and prosopographical evidence for the chronology of 45 moneyers who struck at Rome under Augustus, and considered the relationship between the mints of Rome and Lugdunum in the light of a newly proposed chronology.

Fred Albertson discussed the economic and political factors which led to Maxentius opening a mint at Ostia in 309. The evidence suggests that the establishment of the mint was part of a Maxentian plan to centralize coin production near Rome and insure the continued production of gold and silver outside the unpredictable political climate of Rome.

Consular solidi from Constantius II to Justinian I were the focus of Diane Schauer's study. Careful analysis of the various issues clarifies where the various rulers celebrated their consulships and in some cases at what time of year the celebration occurred. Variations in the iconography of the consulship were also explored.

Christine C. Ryba reported on her study of 900 deniers from the prominent

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## Islamic Coins Newest ANS Handbook

On September 1, the second of the ANS Handbook series, *Islamic Coins*, will be available. The set consists of 36 color slides accompanied by a 52 page book.

Islamic Curator Michael Bates has written this survey which is laid out with text and photographs of the coins on the left hand pages, and an accompanying catalogue of the coins on the right. The Handbook is available separately or in the deluxe set which includes the 36 color slides illustrating the coinage discussed in the book.

In his Introduction, Bates explains the nature of Islamic coinage with its emphasis on words rather than images and indicates the importance of coinage in the study of Islamic cultures. The main body of text is divided into three sections: Origins of Islamic Coinage; Regional Diversity; and Modern Times. A short bibliography of general works is also included.

Each entry in the catalogue contains a brief identification of the coin — dynasty, ruler, mint, Hijra and Christian dates, coin metal and denomination — where available. A complete catalogue description of the coin follows with the legends both transliterated and translated. Over 90 coins are featured and, where appropriate, specific bibliographic references are included.

### Nationwide Project

*Islamic Coins* was produced as the Society's contribution to a nationwide effort to create undergraduate teaching materials concerning Islamic civilizations, a project coordinated by the American Council of Learned Societies



under the direction of Professor Herbert L. Bodman, Jr., of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Major funding for the overall project has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency.

The complete set, Handbook with 36 color slides in a specially boxed edition, is priced at \$39.00; the Handbook alone is available for \$8.00. Members who order before October 17 may purchase this publication at the discount price of \$29.00 for the boxed edition and \$7.00 for the Handbook, postage included.

The American Numismatic Society  
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New York NY 10032

Please send me \_\_\_\_ copies of *Islamic Coins*, 36 slides and booklet in boxed edition at \$29.00 each, and \_\_\_\_ copies of *Islamic Coins*, the booklet only, at \$7.00 each. Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for books and postage.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL GIVING PLEA

Contributions and pledges to the Society's Annual Giving program totaled \$45,300 as of the July 16 Council Meeting. An additional \$4,700 must be realized by September 30 if the 1982 goal of \$50,000 is to be met.

Thus far this fiscal year, 16% of the membership has shown support for the work of the Society by contributing. Members who have not yet given are urged to do so before September 30.

### Tax Benefit Reminder

Members and friends are reminded that all taxpayers, including those who do not itemize on their tax returns, may now claim a deduction for gifts to qualifying organizations such as the ANS. For 1982 and 1983, up to \$25 in contributions may be deducted. Of the 349 gifts to Annual Giving received this year, 276 were for \$25 or less.

(Associates, continued from page 6)

Chatham, NY; Stanley Sky, Cleveland, OH; Arvin P. Smith, Mt. Lanes, NJ; Michael Swirnoff, Bayside, NY; Paolo Visona, Ann Arbor, MI; Alan R. Weinberg, New York, NY; Fred S. Yoss, Fort Wayne, IN; and Clarence Zaar, San Francisco, CA.

### Reinstatements

Four former members were reinstated by the Council: Thomas W. Barnes, Orlando, FL; Eugene E. Bowles, Indianapolis, IN; C. Henry Kotzen, Claremont, CA; and Richard A. Olson, Northfield, MN.

[Offer valid for orders received by October 17, 1982]



### Funding the Celebration

The Society has requested substantial funding support for the exhibit and related programs from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency. In addition, the ANS is seeking \$125,000 from individual and corporate donors toward funding the anniversary celebration.

Harry W. Fowler, board chairman of Fiduciary Trust Company in New York and Chairman of the Society's Finance Committee is directing the fund raising effort. To date almost \$40,000 has been provided toward the goal, mainly through the generous support of all members of the Society's Council.

A major effort is underway to gain the support of the numismatic business community as partners in the installation of the new exhibition. Recognition will be given to sponsors of each display area.

Also, a bronze plaque will be installed at the entrance to the exhibit hall to acknowledge individual contributions in the following categories: Exhibit Benefactor, \$5,000; Exhibit Patron, \$1,000; Exhibit Donor, \$500. Through these means, the Society will be able to give permanent recognition to the individual and business friends who make possible the new exhibit and other important activities scheduled for 1983.

### BRITISH ISLES SYLLOGE

Oxford University Press has announced the publication in September of *Ancient British, Anglo-Saxon and Norman Coins in American Collections*, volume 30 of the Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles. The volume was prepared by Jeremiah D. Brady, former Associate Curator of Mediaeval Coins at the ANS. It provides a fully illustrated record of the coins of these series held in three major collections in the United States—those of the ANS, the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. The cross-Atlantic collaboration which led to the publication of the volume was arranged through the help of Mrs. Emery May Norweb.

The volume has 15 pages of introductory materials and features 819 coins on 30 plates, ranging from uninscribed Gallo-Belgic gold through coins of Henry of Northumberland and including forgeries. It is indexed by mints, moneyers, and provenance.

## ANS Computer after One Year

The Society's Prime 1500 computer will celebrate its first birthday in mid August. It has changed the working routine for many of the staff as they have learned about its capacities and become familiar with its operation.

This first year has mainly been one of establishing a data base of sufficient size to be useful. For approximately the first five months, the main energies of the data entry clerk, George Cuhaj, were concentrated on transcribing data from accession ledgers dating back to the foundation of the Society in 1858. In January this task, which involved recording some 19,000 transactions (gifts, purchases, exchanges, and loans) covering nearly 700,000 objects, was complete. By that time the curators had sufficient experience working with coin data entry to set priorities and protocols for the description of coins, and Cuhaj began rotation, on a six week cycle, among the curatorial departments. Over 50,000 coins are now "on-line," with an approximate balance among the departments.

### Detailed Coin Records

The number of coins entered does not approach our initial estimates, but the rate of recording will no doubt pick up with time. One slowing factor has been the computer itself: the ENTER.COINS mode makes it so easy to enter complete records (as against skeletal ones we had originally contemplated) that many curators have succumbed to the temptation to weigh the coins and record their die axes during initial data entry; sophisticated systems for describing mint marks and symbols have been devised; and so on. Much data entry takes place with catalogues in hand, and some original cataloguing is being done.

Retrieval has been done occasionally, as the adequacy of the data base permitted. For example, the entry of the Roman Republican collection is now complete, and hand lists have been generated of all issues marked with symbols so that one can see at a glance which symbols and combinations of symbols are represented in the collection. A relatively quick search of the "find spot" field has allowed the reconstruction of two hoards. Other clerical tasks, such as describing loans into or out of the museum, are performed quickly by the computer; and a beginning has been made on inventorying the medals of a given artist by location within the collection.

### Word Processor

The computer's utility as a word processor has also been exploited to generate multiple mailings, manuals for the use of data entry personnel, and even a guide to local cuisine that can be updated on the basis of one's most recent experience. The forthcoming edition of the ANS history is stored entirely on the computer, and can be updated easily; William Metcalf and Michael Bates have also used the computer in preparation of excavation reports. In Metcalf's case, when long concordances of inventory and catalogue numbers are part of the report demanded by the excavators, hours of tedious manual sorting and proof reading have been saved. The entire catalogue of the 1979 finds from Carthage has been entered, sorted, and printed on the computer.

The computer program was designed with volunteers and outside users in mind, and two volunteers—Frances M. Schwartz and Michael Peachin—have been particularly helpful in entering data. Mrs. Schwartz entered roughly 20% of the Republican coins; Mr. Peachin began his work toward the completion of Republican data entry, and is now working on third-century imperial coins relevant to his doctoral research in the Columbia University Department of History.

### DOTY AT ANA

The ANS will be represented at this year's annual convention of the American Numismatic Association with an information booth and a free-standing exhibit. The convention will be held at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel August 16-22. The information booth will include an automated slide show illustrating objects from the Society's collection and will display various Society publications. Richard Doty, ANS Curator of Modern Coins and Paper Money, will be assisted at the booth by volunteer Society members.

The ANS exhibit at the convention will commemorate the centennial of the birth of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. A free-standing display in the non-competitive exhibit area, it will feature numismatic material relating to the life,

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(Editors continued from page 1)

cially interested in instances where the numismatic evidence does not seem to fit with the archaeological evidence.

Based on his 1974 book, *Coins and the Archaeologist*, Casey joined Society curators Michael Bates and William Metcalf in addressing the Graduate Seminar on "Coins and the Archaeologist." A free ranging discussion followed based on Bates's on-site experience at the Fustat excavations, Metcalf's description of the problems that the non-resident numismatist faces relating to his experience with excavation coins from Carthage, and Casey's numismatic and archaeological experiences concerning Roman finds in Britain.



Bengt Hovén

Bengt E. Hovén, Curator of Islamic Coins at the Numismatic Institute in Stockholm, came to the Society to examine a ninth century hoard of Middle Eastern coins. His specific interests are Middle Eastern Islamic coinages up to about 1100 and Ottoman coinage, but he is also involved with most Oriental coinages. A teacher of philosophy, psychology and history, with a special interest in Semitic languages, he began working summers at the Institute in 1960 which finally led to his full time appointment in 1975.

Hovén has already worked through Islamic hoards found in Sweden containing coins from A.D. 600 to 900 and has been creating profiles of these

hoards based on five year periods of time. He plans to draw similar profiles of Middle Eastern hoards in an attempt to see if their composition is similar or dissimilar, and then try to explain the conditions that led to those circumstances.

Robert W. Hoge, who has been Curator of the ANA collection of coins since 1981 when the position was created, was here early in the summer. Hoge was himself a student and collector of U.S. and world coins and currency for 20 years, with special interests in classical, mediaeval European and Oriental moneys. Since graduating from the University of Colorado in 1969 with a BA in anthropology, Hoge has done graduate work in various fields at the University of Chicago and the University of Colorado. He is interested in numismatics, museology, archaeology, and education, and combines these interests by integrating coins and numismatic materials as cultural documents in museum teaching demonstrations. Before going to the ANA he was Director of the Sanford Museum and Planetarium in Cherokee, Iowa.

(Students, continued from page 2)

mint of Guingamp (counts of Penthièvre) in Brittany. She presented a relative chronology for this immobilized coinage, taking into account previously unrecorded varieties. The coins were grouped on the basis of stylistic degeneration of the reverse bust types, the use of punches in forming legends, weight, specific gravity, and module.

Constance Berman analyzed the ANS portion of a hoard of mediaeval French coins acquired in 1958. She argued that the preponderance of feudal coins from Rodez, Cahors, and Melgueil suggests a provenance in the southern Massy Centrale of France, and that the presence of a coin from Souvigny datable to the 1260s indicates the earliest possible date of deposit. On the basis of wear, she suggested that this hoard supports recent speculation that would push back the date of introduction of a new type of denier tournois under Louis XIV.

Boyd F. Johnson studied the copper coinage of the Mongol Ilkhans. The copper coinage of the Ilkhans, who ruled Iran, Iraq and Anatolia during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, is a good example of the decentralized system of copper minting typical in the Islamic world. The coins, which bear a

large variety of figural as well as epigraphic types, have not been systematically studied, and the ANS collection, one of the largest in the world, provided a basis for a catalogue and study of Ilkhanid copper coinage.

In addition to his responsibilities as visiting scholar, Mr. Burnett found time to pursue his own work. He continued to gather material for his work on Rome's earliest silver coinages and the provincial issues of the Julio-Claudians. Access to the ANS's extensive collection of Alexandrian coins permitted him to put the finishing touches on an article on the issues of Severus Alexander, which will appear in a future *ANSMN*.

In addition to scheduled lectures by staff and visitors, there were two surprise additions. P.J. Casey of the University of Durham discussed Romano-British finds in a talk entitled "Coins and the Archaeologist—Some Case Studies"; and Nicholas M. Lowick, Deputy Keeper at the British Museum, essayed "Metropolitan vs. Provincial Style in the Early Abbasid Coinage."

## NOMINATING COMMITTEES APPOINTED

Society President Harry W. Bass, Jr., has appointed two nominating committees to report at the Annual and Corporate Reorganization Meetings of the Society next January.

Mr. Bass will serve as chairman of the Nominating Committee for Members of the Council. Other members are Alan B. Coleman and John D. Leggett, Jr. The committee will present nominations for three positions on the Society's Council at the Annual Meeting on January 8, 1983.

The Nominating Committee for Officers of the Society comprises John J. Slocum, chairman, Roger A. Hornsby and R. Henry Norweb, Jr. This Committee will report at the Corporate Reorganization Meeting of the Society's Council immediately following the Annual Meeting in January.

## BATES WORK UNPRICED

In reporting on the privately printed *A Byzantine Coin Collection* by George E. Bates (*ANS Newsletter*, Spring 1982), we erred in indicating a price of \$45.00 for the book, no price should have been quoted.



# Calendar

## August

- 7 Last day of ANS Graduate Seminar
- 17-22 ANA Convention, Boston: Richard Doty, ANS representative; ANS volunteers will man the ANS Information Booth

## September

- 1 *Islamic Coins* publication date
- 9 Columbia Seminar on Greek Numismatics begins, taught by Nancy Waggoner
- 23-25 "Medieval Monetary Problems: Bimetallism and Bullionism," Alan Stahl participating, meeting of the Economic History Association, Baltimore

## October

- 9 Fall Members Meeting  
Finance Committee Meeting  
Council Meeting

## November

- 2 Society closed - Election Day
- 3 *Numismatic Literature* 108 (September) to members
- 6 East Asian Committee meeting
- 13 Deadline for submission of material for *Numismatic Literature* 109
- 25-27 Society closed - Thanksgiving weekend

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career and presidency of the thirty-second President.

Among the pieces relating to his early life are medals representing his participation on the committees of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration of 1909, the Battle of Plattsburgh Centennial of 1914 and the Panama-Pacific Exposition of 1915. His career is marked by medals relating to various governmental institutions associated with F.D.R., from the New York State Senate, which he joined in 1910, through the U.S. Navy, where he gained recognition in procurement during World War I, to the various new agencies created during the New Deal. The Roosevelt presidency is represented by medals from all four inaugurations as well as a series of medallion portraits issued during and after his lifetime.

A part of the exhibit is devoted to the campaigns in which F.D.R. participated during his long political career. Included are medals and celluloid buttons from the 1920 campaign in which Franklin Roosevelt ran as the Vice-Presidential running mate of James M. Cox, through the 1928 campaign of Al Smith, whom F.D.R. placed in nomination at three Democratic conventions, to Roosevelt's own four successful presidential campaigns. A colorful section is the "battle of the buttons" of 1940, when Wendell Wilkie issued an estimated thirty-three million celluloid buttons in an unsuccessful bid to block Roosevelt's third term.

Society members and friends are invited to stop by at the information booth, and those who wish to offer their services as a volunteer should contact Mr. Elam to set up a time.

## ASSOCIATES ELECTED

At its mid-July meeting the Council of the Society elected 42 new members and reinstated four others. Eight of these are past and present Graduate Seminar participants and four others are domiciled abroad.

Those elected are Fred C. Albertson, Media, PA; Gerard A. Anaszewicz, Skokie, IL; Donald E.E. Anderson, Wetherfield, CT; Frank S. Arko, Seattle, WA; James A. Armstrong, Chicago, IL; Constance H. Berman, Washington, DC; Kevin L. Blood, Auckland, New Zealand; Nicolae Calinesch, Bronx, NY; William Joseph Carr, Pittsford, NY; Candace Carter, New York, NY; Sol R. Colton, Detroit MI; Gary Roman Dishuh, Garfield, NJ; Dennis Farrell, Westwood, NJ; and L.B. Fauver, Menlo Park, CA.

Also, Francis M. Fazzari, Washington, DC; Milton R. Friedberg, Cleveland, OH; James C. Garner Reseda, CA; Martin T. Gengerke Jackson Heights, NY; Marvin Allen Gordon, Philadelphia, PA; Daniel Gricourt, Lambersart, France; Mark W. Holden, Bloomfield, MI; Boyd F. Johnson, Nevada City, CA; Jeffrey H. Kaimowitz, West Hartford, CT; Catharine Edgerton Lenker, Redlands, CA; Marsha B. McCoy, New Haven, CT; Lia Meissner, Bogata, Columbia; William M. Mitchell, Seattle, WA; and Richard E. Moore, Babylon, NY.

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